




MEMORANDUM

To: Traffic Study Files

From: Lee Austin, P.E.  6
Central Austin Area Engineer
Austin Transportation Department

Date: 8/27/2013

Subject: Reduced Speed School Zone Investigation

Location: West 10th Street, 2500 – 2600 blocks.



Date(s) of Previous Investigation: None

A traffic engineering investigation has been conducted to determine if a reduced speed school zone is appropriate on West 10th Street from Exposition Boulevard to Wayside Drive at O. Henry Middle School for its students. The following information was collected and analyzed for this determination.

Proximity of the School Crossing to the School

The proposed reduced speed school zone on West 10th Street is directly adjacent to the main entrance of the school campus where pedestrians can be expected to be crossing.

Pedestrian Count

No pedestrian count was taken, however, a consistent pattern of pedestrians crossing West 10th Street from the south curb to the school campus after exiting vehicles has been observed as a continued practice over time.

Existing Roadway Conditions

Location	Number of Lanes	ADT: Two-Way	Posted Speed Limit	Street Width
West 10 th Street	2	Unknown	30 MPH	34 feet

Presence of Adult Crossing Guard or Student Safety Patrol

There is not an adult crossing guard present at this location, and none is planned.

Crash History

Austin Police Department's crash database was reviewed for crashes occurring between June 2008 and June 2013 within the proposed school zone. Three crashes were documented during this period.

West 10th Street

Date / Time	Direction		Weather	Light	Road	Injury	Comments
	At Fault	Other					
1/11/12 5:08 PM	WB	WB	Clear	Day	Dry	None	(10 th @ Exposition) Follow too closely.
9/29/11 2:57 PM	NB	-	Clear	Day	Dry	None	(Exposition @ 10 th) Loss of control. DWI
4/20/11 6:01 PM	SB	WB	Clear	Day	Dry	Minor	(2500 W.10 th St) Skateboarder hit a car

Sight Distance

Sight distance exceeds the lengths of the proposed school zones on W 10th Street due to the flat, straight nature of the street.

Sidewalks and Ramps

A sidewalk exists along the north curb for the entire length of the school property on 10th Street from Exposition Boulevard to Wayside Drive.

Recommendation

Based on the analysis of this information, a reduced speed school zone of 20 miles per hour (mph) should be installed on W 10th Street from Exposition Boulevard to Wayside Drive directly adjacent O. Henry Middle School.

Figure 1 presents the study area and limits of proposed speed zones.